IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:

John T. Allen

Group Art Unit: 3672

Serial No.: 10/748,119

SEP 2 7 2004

Confirmation No.: 1731

December 30, 2003

Examiner: Kenneth L. Thompson

Filed:

For:

Customer No. 36735

TONG FOR WELLBORE

OPERATIONS

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir.

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the fax number indicated by the Examiner, namely, fax number 703/872-9306 to the attention of the named Examiner, on the date below.

27,7004

Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 25, 2004

In response to the Office Action dated August 25, 2004 having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 25, 2004, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0142.D2/WBP for any fees, including excess claim fees and extension of time fees, necessary to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 7.

10/05/2004 EKEY11

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